(b) A team of Revenue officials of the Government of Rajasthan has conducted a survey to ascertain damages to houses etc. The team found some minor damages in some of the houses in the Pokharan area, estimated to the tune of Rs. 3.62 lakh. Compensation for that amount was extended as relief to the villagers, which, however, was not accepted by the villagers, even though the relief offered was much higher than the relief provided in case of damages caused by natural calamities.

(c) Yes, Sir. Survey conducted by a team of doctors sent by the Government of Rajasthan has observed no effect of radioactivity to any person in the area.

Peaceful uses of Nuclear Energy

2487. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals are on the anvil of invite officials from Pakistan's atomic establishment to have a discussion with their Indian counterparts on joint or several initiatives in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;

(b) whether, even in the absence of official level initiatives, Government will encourage groups of scientists and technologists from India to establish direct contact with their counterparts in Pakistan to discuss such matters; and

(c) whether the Government have any information of infiltration by outsiders into India's atomic research centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Government have no such proposals for consideration before them.

(b) Government are not considering any such proposal.

(c) No, Sir.

Opinion of permanent UN Security Council members on Nuclear tests

2488. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether five permanent U.N. Security Council Members tentatively agreed to avoid threatening sanctions against India over nuclear testings during negotiations on a draft U.N. resolution recently; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The UN Security Council resolution 1172 adopted on 6th June, 1998 does not contain any reference to sanctions.

(b) Question does not arise.

Rehabilitation of persons repatriated from UAE

2489. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian labourers living unauthorisedly in UAE had been repatriated/driven out during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government took suitable steps to rehabilitate them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) About 60000 Indian nationals, who were declared to be illegal residents by the UAE authorities, were deported between July 1 and October 31, 1996 under an amnesty scheme.

(c) Yes, sir.

(d) To facilitate the return of these Indian nationals to the UAE and their